



LIBRARY COMMISSION

NEWSLETTER

2004 Quarrier St., Charleston, West Virginia (25311)

Vol. 13

May 1968

No. 2

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR SPECIALIZED LIBRARY SERVICES

In compliance with Requirements of the Library Services and Construction Act, Title IV, five state department representatives and to librarians were appointed by the Library Commission on April nineteenth to the Council. The function of the Council "to coordinate and implement library services for state institutions and for the visually and physically handicapped": Robert Sarver-(Director, Division of Corrections), George Gay-(Assistant Chief-Casework Services, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation), Mrs. Isabel Hildenbrand-(Clerk in Charge of Service to The Blind, Department of Welfare), Harry Walker-(Executive Director, Commission on Aging), Miss Eileen Tuey-(Nursing Consultant, Department of Mental Health), Mrs. Mary Louise Graham-(Librarian, Raleigh County Public Library), Miss Jeanine Kreyenbuhl-(Director, Ohio County Public Library).

FIRST AID FOR THE HANDICAPPED READER

The reader with a disability can once again join the ranks of book worms. Several new devices, which can help the handicapped reader enjoy conventional books, will be on display at Regional and Service Center libraries: For the patient with normal vision, who happens to be bedfast, a floor model Shafer Reading Stand can hold "the book for him and prism glasses dubbed "Bed Specs" permit the patient to read while in a horizontal position."

Since "seeing is believing" promotional methods to encourage purchases of additional equipment locally may include demonstrations in clubs, churches, store windows, and with potential users everywhere. Since general hospitals have short term patients, residents of nursing homes and the handicapped confined at home, should derive maximum benefit from these reading crutches. Demonstrations for hospital auxiliaries can offer ideas for purchasing some of this equipment for use in the hospital.

SERVICE FOR THE BLIND

The visually handicapped have for several years been provided with Talking Books from the Carnegie Regional Library for the Blind in Pittsburgh. About 600 readers are now using this service. Information stored on magnetic tape can be enjoyed through use of tape recorders, which will be available in Regional and Center libraries. Effective July first, public libraries can initiate Certification of the Blind. Detailed instructions and descriptive brochures will be distributed to all libraries sometime in

EQUIPMENT FOR THE HANDICAPPED READER



Mrs. John Holstein, a regular volunteer with the Book Express Service in Hinton, is fascinated as Shirley Louthan, Consultant for Specialized Library Services, demonstrates the "Turn-A-Page." Persons who have any movement left in any part of the body may still turn the page of a book with this device.

Special devices for the physically handicapped reader will be available for demonstration from the following:

Regional Libraries at Spencer, Huntington, Moundsville, Keyser, and Buckhannon.

Service Center Libraries at Weirton, Wheeling, Martinsburg, Morgantown, and Charleston.

Book Express Office at 4104 MacCorkle Avenue, S. E. in Charleston.

Photos courtesy of:

Editor John Falconer
of the Hinton Daily
News.



Carol Parsons, Library Assistant for the new Service to State Institutions, demonstrates a Talking Book Machine as part of Hinton's Observance of National Library Week.

Talking Book Machines can be secured from two sources, therefore the Library Commission is not supplying them.

Blind readers can secure the record players by contacting the Blind Services Department, W. Va. Department of Welfare, 1800 E. Washington St., Charleston, W. Va. 25305.

Physically handicapped readers who want a long term loan of a recorder should write the Library of Congress.

June explaining new referral channels for blind service.

The Philadelphia Free Library will continue to service Braille Readers. Perkins Brailers will be provided in each Regional and Center Library. If a library should need to correspond with a blind reader, a Braille Typewriter will be available in the field offices in Charleston.

The funding of this program is through Title IV of the Library Services and Construction Act, and is matched by a grant from the West Virginia Legislature.

CHECK UP
ON
SOCIAL SECURITY STATUS

Paul Jefferson, Director of Social Security Program in West Virginia, reports that some public libraries have not clarified their status for Social Security coverage. If a library is considered a separate organization, it should be

listed with the State Auditor's office...only eleven are presently listed: Alpha Regional; Martinsburg Public; Clay County Public; Moundsville Public; Mary H. Weir Public; Sistersville Public; Stonewall Jackson Regional; Charles W. Gibson Public; and Kanawha County Public. (The Library Commission mailed a questionnaire on April sixteenth. This is a reminder.) The purpose of this survey is to complete the listing of public libraries for the contract which exists between state government and the federal government.

TRUSTEES DAY
AT
W. V. L. A. SEPTEMBER 27
MARTINSBURG

On March 22, Perry O'Brien, head of the trustees section of the West Virginia Library Association, and four trustees met with the Executive Board of W. V. L. A. in Parkersburg. Others attending with him included: Dr. Earl Core-(Morgantown),

Campbell Beall-(Martinsburg), Earl Rich-(Welch), and Mrs. Randall Murrill-(Parkersburg). A special recruitment drive to enlarge the active membership of the Trustee Section of the Library Association will be launched soon. The Association plans to publish a small brochure outlining the duties of a trustee.

It has been suggested that each public library board send a trustee representative to the annual conference of the Library Association at Martinsburg and, if possible, try to pay a portion of the expenses. The Conference theme will deal with library building construction. Activities for trustees are being coordinated with Betty Jane Wade, first Vice President of the Association. The program will emphasize discussions of better financing for public libraries and some modifications of state legislation. June Brugger, of Marshall University Library, will serve the Association as Program Chairman for the fall conference.

CABELL COUNTY LIBRARY
OPENS
A NEW WEST HUNTINGTON BRANCH

Continuing a tradition from the opening of the Barboursville Branch where a young borrower cut the blue ribbon, a fourth grader, Jerry Morrison of Cabell School, wielded the scissors in West Huntington. Jim Nelson, Cabell Public Library

Director, reports that the new store front branch has 4,000 square feet for expansion. Mrs. Mary Moeser has been appointed branch librarian. An additional full-time employee will be added soon. The new facility, which opened April sixteenth, is located at 430 West Fourteenth Street, in Westmoreland.

FOURTH WORKSHOP
POTOMAC VALLEY
REGION

Hampshire County Library played host on April twentieth to the eight libraries of the Eastern Panhandle Area. Conference arrangements were made by Mrs. Mary Handlan, Area Librarian.

"Widening Horizons" served as the theme for discussion with State Library Commission staff members... Sandra Peterson, Reference Librarian from the Headquarters Library in Charleston, discussed new techniques for inter-library cooperation; and Shirley Louthan, Library Consultant for Specialized Library Services, explained and demonstrated new equipment to assist the handicapped reader.

Mr. Loudon Thompson, President of Hampshire County Board, served as Toastmaster for a luncheon at the American Legion Hall. Discussions were held in the new library building at Romney.

NEW FACES
ON
THE LIBRARY SCENE

Phillip Place has been appointed Assistant Director of the Cabell County Library. Mr. Place has served on the Reference Staff of the San Francisco Public Library; a native of Ohio, he received his graduate library training at the

University of Southern California. Mrs. M. D. Goodwin, of Morgantown, has been employed as the new librarian at Kingwood as plans are being finalized for opening of the new building, June 15. Mrs. Dorothy Hudson replaces Mrs. Dorothy Henderson at the Pocahontas County Library at Greenbank.

Glenville State College welcomes back a former staff member, David Gillespie, who has just completed his library training at the University of Indiana. He replaces Albert Carlsen, who has accepted a position at Wayne State University in Detroit.

"AND THE APPLAUSE
WAS DEAFENING"

Is a two-fold pamphlet with suggestions on presentation, purpose, platform, and personality for successful public speaking by librarians. This is the ninth in a series of pamphlets issued by the public relations section of the

Library Administration Division. Other leaflets in the series include: "Why, When for Whom, Public Relations, Whose Job," "Put Your Library in This Picture," "Librarians and Trustees, Partners in Public Relations," "The News Release," "Count on Complaints," and "Communicate With Your Legislator." The Library Commission will supply up to six copies of these publications on request from a librarian or public library trustee.

NEW REGULATIONS
ON
STATE RETIREMENT

Notice for Trustees and Clerks of Library Boards: Public Employees Retirement Contributions have been increased...."Effective July 1, 1968, members contribution is raised to 4.5% and the employers' contribution is raised to 7.5% of the Payroll."